

Dear Sirs,

I am deeply troubled by the growing consolidation of media in the US. 10 mega-corporations now control a huge majority of all media outlets and programming. The quality of our democracy depends on the quality and diversity of the information the citizens of this country receive. The huge amount of consolidation in the media has resulted in a substantial reduction in the diversity of voices heard. Moreover, solely profit driven companies have decreased the value of what they broadcast by cutting-costs (ex. decreasing news quality) and increasing money generating activities (ie. Advertising). While companies have the right to earn their money, the public airwaves are too important to our form of government to be the sole factor that determines our media content. As such, I urge you to prevent further consolidations of the media and institute measures to promote more local and regional public media outlets that are more program driven and less advertisement driven.

These public community-based media systems would stimulate larger media conglomerates to increase the value and diversity of their broadcasts via programming competition.

In addition, please allow public scrutiny of the decisions you would make before they are put into affect, since they affect us so dramatically.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,
Ian Berke